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SUBJECT Soviet Citizens Association in Pyongyang

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NO. OF ENCLS.  
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SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

1. During the summer of 1949, N. D. Predybaile\*, Soviet consul in Pyongyang, called in a Russian emigre resident of the city, Vladimir Feodorovich Levi, and informed him that it would be "advisable" to organize a Soviet Citizens Association in Pyongyang. Predybaile pointed out to him that Korea was far behind Manchuria in organization of local Soviets.\*\*\* Levi was employed at Charin and Company.\*\*\*
2. Shortly afterwards, all Russian emigres in Pyongyang who held Soviet citizenship were called together to a meeting under the chairmanship of Predybaile. They were automatically formed into the Soviet Citizens Association, and a secret ballot was taken to elect officers. It was announced that the person receiving the largest number of votes would become chairman of the association, and the next five highest votes would designate the association executive committee. The vote was taken but results were not announced. No further action was taken at the first meeting.
3. Several days later, all the emigres were assembled. Predybaile made a short speech emphasizing the benefits to all former emigres of membership in the Soviet Citizens Association and recommended Levi as permanent chairman for the organization. Although some of the members were aware that Levi had received barely enough votes to become an alternate member of the executive committee, the association adopted the recommendation "unanimously" and Levi became chairman. He remained in that position until 20 October 1950 when the UN forces entered Pyongyang.\*\*\*

25X1A [REDACTED] Comment: Predybailo has been previously identified in this position.

25X1A      **Comment:** It may be assumed that approximately all White Russian and other emigres had become Soviet citizens after the war when a drive was made throughout the world to establish all persons of Russian origin as Soviet citizens.

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Comment: See

25X1A [REDACTED] Comment: The reason for the Soviet insistence on Levi as chairman was not stated. He was, however, considered to be in a responsible position and a senior member of the emigre community.

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